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THE  
LAST WORDS

AND

TESTIMONIES

Of and for

William Allen,

Earles

Late of Cowen in Essex, a  
faithfull Servant of the Lord; who  
finishing his Testimony, departed  
this Life the 21. of the 11th. Month,

1679.

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LONDON,

Printed and sold by Benjamin Clark in George-  
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TESTIMONIES

vol. 100

100 TESTIMONIES

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ДОКУМЕНТЫ

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The last Testimony and living  
Words of our dear Friend  
and Servant of the Lord  
William Allen, who depart-  
ed this Life the 21. of the  
11th. Month, 1679.

**T**He Earth is filled with the glory of the Lord, Praises, Praises, unto my God, who Reigns over all, who hath Redeemed my Soul from the Grave, and my Life from the horrible Pit, who hath plucked my Feet out of the mire and Clay. Glory, Glory be unto thy great Name Oh my good God! As for my part I have fought the good Fight, and have kept the Faith, and a large share of the Glory of my God is sealed unto my Soul, its but an earnest of it that I have here, of that Crown of life and Glory which my Father hath in store for me.

It hath pleased the Lord to exercise me, <sup>a</sup>  
 he did my Father Job for the tryal of my  
 Faith and Patience ; I have troden his Steps  
 these twelve Months. A full reward thou hast  
 given me of Life and Glory : Oh my good  
 God ! how good art thou to me : I have re-  
 ceived abundance of good at thy hand, and  
 shall I not receive a little evil ? Blessed be thy  
 name for thy goodness ; my Cup overflows  
 I cannot utter it. And so continued, at times  
 oft expressing the glory of the Lord, and the  
 Immortality that rested upon him; and charged  
 friends to be faithful, and that the dread of God  
 might always be upon their hearts, that they  
 might answer his Love, in yeilding Obedience  
 to his requirings : and then though they might  
 meet with Exercises for the tryal of their Faith,  
 yet the Lord would be with them if they abode  
 faithful to the end ; And the same Crown of life  
 they should enjoy which he had an assurance  
 of. Therefore (said he) Watch, and keep  
 your Garments and Oyl in your Vessels, that  
 ye may be ready to enter with the Bride-  
 groom. But as for those that shall continue  
 in Hypocrisie and Disobedience, shun the  
 Cross of Jesus and neglect to work while it is  
 day ; the night will come upon such, and that

at unawares, when neither the Father nor the Son works, and the foolish Virgins state they will be found in : and though they may desire Oyl of the Wise, they will have none to spare, but the door will be shut upon such, and the sentence will be , time shall be no more, then woe and misery will be their Portion for ever.

He divided the word aright to his two Daughters, and giving them good Counsel and Exhortation, said, there was a blessing for them for their Fathers sake, if they should bow to Truth, and abide faithful therein.

He longed he said, to hast away, but was willing to drink the Cup at his Fathers hand, and wait his pleasure

More was spoken by him, as friends came to see him, and as his strength would permit, which was not taken in writing. Then his speech growing very low, he could not well be heard, and seemed for some hours to lie as he was departing ; at last, he said to a friend, was almost gon, but I cannot go yet, there is the secret counsel of God in it, which caused friends to believe that he had yet a farther testimony to bear to some, which was so ; for after some little time, more friends coming in,

he was beyond outward likelyhood enabled to declare much to them, and exhorted to faithfulness, and said, I am glad to see my friends about me: I go to my God and your God, my Father and your Father; my bosome is full of Love to all my Fathers Children. And then said, now Lord *Jesus* how acceptable is it to leave all the World and be gathered up to thee. And so committing his Spirit to the Lord, soon fell asleep, and is entred into Rest and Immortal Glory.

*The Testimony of Martha Allen, concerning her deceased Husband William Allen.*

I Have parted with a man of God, a Minister of *Jesus Christ*, an ancient in *Israel*, who hath fought the good Fight and kept the Faith, and is entred into his rest. He would often lament for those that set down in an eas-<sup>recep</sup>ful State; and would often say, that a terrible day would overtake those that are careless and at ease in *Sion* that slumbers away their time, who are in the Holes, and Caves, and Dens of the Earth. And in the time of his health (that he was able to go forth and visit friends) he would oft say to me, God hath made me a

Hunt

Huntsman, I must visit many of them there, as  
 in their Holes and Caves, I must be clear of  
 their bloud. And would oft speak of the  
 more travel and pangs that he had for some,  
 which made his Soul oft sorrowful, as unto  
 death. So in that truth, light, and life that  
 dwelt in him, am I given up to follow the  
 Lord to the end of my days till my change  
 comes: who am a Companion to all that fears  
 Rest the Lord.

*Martha Allen.*

This is the Testimony that lives in my heart,  
 concerning my dear and well beloved friend  
 William Allen; who died the 21st. day of the  
 Month 1679. Who in his life time was  
 a man of an upright heart and walked in the  
 integrity of the Gospel of Christ, of which he  
 received a dispensation in the early days of  
 his convincement, about the year 1654. And  
 the Power of the Lord made a speedy change  
 in him, and stirr'd up a Zeal in his Soul against  
 the false ways and worships, superstitions and  
 ungodliness of those times. Which Zeal for  
 God produced living Testimonies from him in  
 divers Towns and places (where he travelled)

against those things which were evil, which sometimes occasioned him to come under hard sufferings, bonds, and imprisonments; In all which he behaved himself as a Faithful and Courageous Soldier of Christ Jesus, and a good example to his fellow sufferers, Preaching the Gospel of peace, both in life and doctrine; stopt the mouths of many gainsayers: And had a sweet and comfortable effect, upon many who were reached in their Consciences by his Testimony and Ministry, and by his innocent Conversation; so that they embraced the Truth he Preached, and suffered for, and became Heirs of the Salvation of God, to their everlasting comfort, and the furtherance of the Gospel.

I have known him about 24 years, In all which time his Conversation in the Churches of Christ where he was led to labour and travel was amiable and lovely; and his Testimony received with good acceptation among the faithful. He was a man of a severe carriage to such as made a profession of Truth, and walked not with a freight foot in the Gospel; but very tender over all such as were young and under exercises about their inward condition, and did sometimes speak very effectual to their con-

conditions to the easing their afflicted Spirits  
as divers have testified, and can testify.

He was a good example in this Count  
where he lived, encouraging friends both by  
exhortation and diligence, in observing the  
good order of truth to keep things clear  
and to keep the Gospel void of offence  
much as in him lay, and after he fell into  
the way of trade in the World, his care was to  
keep his word, and that men might be paid in  
due time according to their expectations. In  
which thing it would be well if all the profe-  
sors of truth would follow his example.

He was a man that never exalted himself  
above his Brethren, but carried a good re-  
spect to them, and to their counsel and judg-  
ment, according as God had given judgment  
and wisdom to his Children; neither did he  
exercise himself in things too high for him  
but dwelt in a contented Habitation, in the  
measure and dispensation of the Grace and  
Gospel committed to him, serving the Lord  
Jesus and his Church and people therein with-  
out weariness to the end of his days, no-  
eying his own Interest thereby, but in simili-  
city of heart ministred to every ones condi-  
tion, according to the leadings of the gift of  
God that was in him.

In fine, His Life and Conversation made  
n lovely, and his End was honourable, and  
is crowned with Immortality and eternal  
fe, and hath left the World in a good age,  
ving attained to about 63 years, and hath  
t an example of Innocency and Sincerity to  
em that are left behind, and blessed will all  
ey be, that in Faithfulness follow the same,  
d fulfill their Race as he hath done, they  
all also partake of the same Crown of Im-  
mortality and eternal Life.

*Steven Crisp.*

Great hath been the loving-kindness of the  
ue God, who after a long night of darkness  
at hath been over the Nations, yet he hath  
ot left himself without a Witness, which in  
every Age and Generation strove with the  
ns and Daughters of men, and bore witness  
to him, and gave men to see what it was  
at he required of them, and in this Age, as  
other Generations, he hath raised up Wit-  
esses and Ministers, who has born testimony  
to the Coming of Christ, and of his being  
ade manifest in Spirit, in the hearts of Men  
and Women; among whom was this faithful  
servant and Minister *William Allen*, who is  
gone

gone to his Rest prepared for him, having  
 nished his course in a good time, in the fee  
 ing of the Power and Majesty of the Lor  
 of which I am a Witness with him, I bei  
 with him a few days before his departur  
 when I saw him in great weakness of Bod  
 yet bearing a sweet and heavenly Image, an  
 his spirit livingly breathing to God, whic  
 brought the day of my tender years (in whic  
 I first saw him) into my remembrance, whe  
 first the Lord shined upon me, and gave me  
 sight of the good Land: this man of God b  
 ing the first publick Minister of the Gospel  
 Jelus that ever I saw, whose appearance wa  
 beautifull and lovely, and God's Image wa  
 upon him, and he bore the Image of the he  
 venly; his words were weighty, and gra  
 Sentences, who looking upon me, and per  
 ceiving my weak condition, he breathed u  
 to God, for my growth and preservation  
 the Truth, which (blessed be the Lord,) Go  
 heard his Prayers, and answered the desire  
 his Petition; for indeed I was as a Bran  
 plukt out of the fire. This was the Love  
 the long-suffering God, who waited to be  
 gracious to the workmanship of his hand.  
 Oh Lord keep me in the remembrance of th

y for ever, that thy Name may be honoured  
me ; for surely thy Love is great, and thy  
ercy endureth for ever to thy seed that  
eaths after thee , and cannot be satisfied  
ithout the enjoyment of thee ; praises to thy  
ame for ever.

*orwich the 3d.*

i. Mo. 16<sup>78</sup>.

*John Fediman.*

The Lord having visited a Remnant in our  
ge and Generation, with the knowledge of  
s everlasting Truth, by causing his Day to  
wn from on high, did raise up several faith-  
ll Ministers, as Instruments in his hand, for  
e carrying on of his Work, and redeeming  
s people from the Kindreds, Tongues and  
nguages , and from the many by-ways,  
ere they were scattered upon the barren  
ountains, to bring them to the one Shep-  
rd and one Sheepfold, among whom was  
r deceased Friend *William Allen*, who was  
lled forth near the beginning of the day,  
d endued with a living and powerfull Mini-  
y, whereby many by him were turned from  
rkness to light, and from Sathan's power to  
e power of God, ( some of whom remains  
is day as the seal of his Ministry ) which  
though

though it was not adorned with the words  
 man's wisdom, yet it was reaching and con-  
 vincingly effectual unto many, who were  
 made sensible of the Life that dwelt in him  
 and by which he sounded a certain Alarm  
 those he travelled amongst, ( being mostly in  
*Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire*  
 and Parts adjacent ) and was read and under-  
 stood by the breathing travelling Babes, to  
 whom he ministred suitably, giving Milk to  
 them, and Meat to those of riper age, ( he  
 being skilfull in dividing the Word aright  
 so that by him the mourners were comforted  
 and the feeble strengthned and encouraged,  
 to persevere on in their most holy Faith ; but his  
 testimony was as a sword to the rebellious  
 and disobedient, and would oft declare, that  
 the Message committed to him, was not only  
 to proclaim liberty to the captives, and glad-  
 tidings to the meek, but the day of vengeance  
 of our God, to all that obeyed not the Go-  
 spel, that being convinced of the truth, sat  
 down in a whole-hearted state, and knowing  
 God did not like to retain him in their know-  
 ledge, and therefore would oft cry, In a  
 much as the day hastens, wherein the Lord  
 would take vengeance on such in flames of  
 fire

re, Come away, come! away, haste, flee for our lives, come out of *Babylon*, stick not to her skirts, partake not with her of her sins, lest you partake of her plagues, but come up, come up to the holy Hill, that you may behold what the Lord is doing in his Sanctuary, who is creating *Jerusalem* a praise, and her people a rejoicing, the day being now come that was prophesied of, that she should be inhabited without walls, the Lord himself being a wall of fire round about her, and her glory in the midst of her. Therefore let the habitants of the Rock now sing, and shout aloud for joy, for *Sion's* Light is come, and the Glory of the Lord is risen upon her, and now become as an overflowing Stream.

And it was not only given to him to believe, but also to suffer for the Testimony committed to him, being in perils and prisons oft, as at *Colchester Castle*, being taken at *Weathersfield* as he was going to a meeting near that town, and committed by *Dudly Templar*, called Justice, *Anno 1658*. ( as also at *Cambridge-Castle*, *Ely*, and *Lyn* ) while he was at the Castle at *Colchester*, ( he having after some time some liberty granted him ) was made serviceable there, sounding forth the everlasting

sting

Sting Gospel, so that divers were awakened  
and gained to the Truth ; amongst others, I  
was made instrumental to me, and hath been  
as a Father to me for these divers years, seek-  
ing and travelling for my preservation in the  
way of life, so that we were near and dear  
one another ; and oft have I been refreshed  
( with many more ) through that stream  
Life that ran through him in the Assemblies  
the Lord's people, so that I can truly say,  
was pleasant to me to sit and hear the sound of  
Life through him, his care being ( as he would  
oft by way of counsel say to others ) to wa-  
that God might give the breath, ( that we  
might be as Trumpets in his hand ) for the  
only it gave a certain sound ; his heart was  
upright to God, ( and his care was over the  
Flock of God, where his lot was cast ) whose  
glory he sought above all, and hath his re-  
ward with him in Glory for ever, though he  
met with exercises as to the outward man, ( in-  
cident to mankind while in this Tabernacle  
of clay ) especially within a year and half  
before his decease, being much afflicted with  
bodily Weakness and Sickness, but would often  
say he was content in the Will of his Father  
and to drink the Cup at his hand. In which

time

ame he shewed forth the Meekness and Patience of him that dwelt in him, and a large share he had of his Father Job's exercises, as he would himself say. But the Lord in due time seeing it was enough, (and that he had born a large share of the heat of the day) (spending and being spent for the Gospel) put a period to his days: Who was filled with the glory of the Lord to the last (so that he said he could shout for joy but that he wanted strength of body) which he said was but an earnest of what he should more fully enjoy when this earthly Tabernacle was dissolved. Who now entred into his rest and shines as a Star in the firmament, and his memory is blessed, who yet lives, and with whose Spirit we feel unity and Fellowship (though the earthly Tabernacle is returned to its center) which unity lasts and endures through ages and generations, where the Spirits of just men made perfect are kept, that are gon before us; and that life which dwelt in them remains with us; which is our joy, Comfort, and Encouragement to persevere on in the way of life: and to us is a certain Testimony that (though the Lord is pleased to remove his Servants and Prophets from us) he will not leave nor forsake us, but will still

will lead his people, as a Flock to the fresh Pastures of life; there to lie down, where none can make afraid; wherein the blessed fence of the overcomings of his love, the holy high praises is offered up unto him who is worthy of it, for all his Mercies and Blessings daily enjoyed, increased, and multiplyed upon us, who hath been our preserver and upholder to this very day, and is our stay and strength in the deepest exercises: Blessed are they who keep to him, they never are forsaken. To him be the Glory and Praise for ever.

*John Furly Junior.*

*The Testimony of Ann Furly the Elder, concerning our deceased Friend William Allen.*

HE was a man whom God made instrumental to my being convinced of the blessed Truth, and in whom the Power of God much dwelt, his Ministry was a living Ministry, he lived in that which he declared of, he did not only exhort to faithfulness, but he was always found in it himself, he was Valiant upon Earth for Gods blessed truth, and as

the Lord required it of him he thought not his life dear, but did hazard it many a time ; in particular here at Colchester, where he exposed himself to the rage of the cruel Troopers ( to see the apparent hazard of his life in the time of whose their sore beating and abusing friends when assembled together (he then openly declaring the truth amongst us) but the secret arm of the Lord preserved him and his people that day, he that was no hurt done, for which the Lord who was praised for his great deliverance, for it was his Wonderful hand only that effected it. And now after all his labours, the Lord hath given him a good reward and received him up into glory as he will do every one who abides in faithful to what he makes manifest.

*Ann Furly the Elder.*

*The Testimony of Martha King, concerning her dear Friend William Allen.*

**T**HIS dear worthy of the Lord and Valiant friend in Israel, who engaged in the Lamb's Warfare till he overcame ; he was made a Pillar in the house of God, and as a Trumpet that gave a certain sound ; Sounding forth a

an alarme from Gods holy Mountain, where-  
; in by many were awakened to righteousness  
; and their Spirits quickened ; and a remnant  
; bore the seal of his Ministry at this day ; to  
; whom he was an instrument in the hand of the  
; Lord, for the turning their minds from dark-  
; ness to light, and from Sathans Power to the  
; power of God. My Spirit is bowed before  
; day, the Lord, and the cry of my Soul is, that all  
; who were so turned by him may for ever walk  
; worthy of the Lords goodness, and answer his  
; large love to our Souls, so shall we answer the  
; labour and travels of this our dear deceased  
; friend, that they be not bestowed upon us in  
; vain, who breathed for the prosperity of *Sion*,  
; that all whose faces were turned *Sion*-wards  
; might not look back, nor linger in the Suburbs  
; of *Babylon* ; those that did so, he would oft  
; declare should be left behind, and *Amalek*  
; should prevail over them.

Much might be written concerning the blest  
; life and power which dwelt in this our dear  
; friend, wherein he obtained a good increase,  
; through his faithfulness to the Lord : the strea-  
; deing forth thereof was very sweetly refreshing,  
; and consolating to those whose hearts were tru-  
; forth bowed to God.

Now, this remains, that we follow his steps in all faithfulness, holiness, and Godly fear, and pure obedience to the Lord, watching to his Power, having a single eye to him the living fountain, from whence all our refreshings come, that we may have bread in our own Houses and water in our own Cisterns, and witness a growth and increase in the increases of God, so shall we also finish our course with joy, and lay down our heads in rest and peace with the Lord as he hath done.

*Martha King.*

Our dear friend *William Allen* is gone, and Immortal is his Crown, and he is at rest in his Fathers bosom. In his sickness he would say that he was filled with the joy of the Lord, and with the presence of his Father. Our loss is great, for I can truly say that he was an Instrument in the hand of God to do good to my Soul, and to many more, and the living presence of the Lord was with him, for our Souls have been refreshed with his living Ministry many a time, and although his body is removed

moved from us, yet we enjoy him in that <sup>Light</sup>  
which is Immortal, as we abide faithful.

Susanna Potter.

Colchester in Essex.

11th. I. Mo. 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ .

Dear Friends,

There is something in my heart to write concerning our dear Friend *William Alleyn*, whom the Lord hath taken out of the Body, but his Life still lives with the upright in heart; he was a man that did truly fear the Lord, and sought his Glory alone; he turned many from darkness to light, and from Sathan's power to the power of God, and there are many living Witnesses thereof. The Lord was good to him night and day, beyond what words can declare, and although he felt Exercises as to the outward man to a bound, yet his consolation in the heavenly power much more abounded; for the Lord fill'd him with the flagons of his Love, and new Wine of the Kingdom, that he was straitened in the earthly Tabernacle, being so filled

I with the living presence of the Lord,  
at he would say he wanted room, Let me  
o.

Much might be spoken as to that living  
ower that wrought in him, and his faith-  
fulness thereunto, and many of his living  
xpressions doth remain with me, as con-  
cerning Friends keeping low in the middle  
ath of judgement, where the Redemption  
f Sion comes to be witnessed. But not  
unto us, not unto us, but unto the heavenly  
ower, Spirit and Life, that wrought effe-  
ually in him, and preserved him to the  
nd of his days, be all praise, power, domi-  
ion, and thanks given, for ever and ever-  
ore, *Amen*, saith my Soul.

*Elizabeth Fryet.*

*F I N I S.*

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